

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Whitney Godin and I am a teacher at Western School in Naugatuck, CT. I have been teaching kindergarten for five years.

I do not have a big issue with Common Core, but the teacher evaluation system is very overwhelming and stressful. I feel as though I am doing as much work filling out paperwork for my evaluations as I did when taking classes to get my masters' degree in special education.

Another very important bone of contention I have with the evaluation system is that it is not being carried out the same at every school in my district.

Lastly, I do not believe a teacher should be 'scored' in an area that has not been observed. On my mid-year evaluation I was scored quite low in the category of 'differentiation', but both observations were done during whole group instruction (Morning meeting and singing sight word songs with my class). As a very competent teacher who is requested by parents year after year, who has been teaching kindergarteners for 12 years with a passion, this felt like an extremely low blow.

All in all, the teacher evaluation system is causing major stress and self-doubt in many talented, competent teachers.

Sincerely,  
Whitney Godin  
Naugatuck Public Schools  
Kindergarten